

## Supply chains

Goods have to go through different stages from being grown to ending up on your table. Today we are thinking about bananas. Who is involved in getting a banana into your fruit bowl?

If we work backwards:

- 1) **You** take a banana from your fruit bowl.
- 2) The bananas were bought at a **shop/ supermarket**.
- 3) They buy the bananas from a '**ripeners**' who buys the bananas when they arrive in the UK and stores them until they're ripe.
- 4) The **ripeners** buy the bananas from an **importer** who buys the bananas when they're on a container ship and pays for transporting them.
- 5) The **importer** buys it from an **exporter**, who takes the bananas to a port, inspects them and loads them into containers.
- 6) The **exporter** buys it from the **plantation owner** who owns the land they are grown on.
- 7) The **plantation** owner buys the bananas from the **farmer**, who grows and picks the bananas.

So – the chain goes : farmer-plantation owner-exporter-importer-ripeners-supermarket – you.

All these people need to make money. They also have lots of expenses.

The farmer needs to make enough money to cover their basic needs and hopefully have a little bit extra to save.

The plantation owner has to pay to maintain the land –often using machinery, pesticides etc- and needs to make a profit

The exporter has to pay lots of people to drive lorries and carry the bananas and needs to make some profit

The importer needs to cover the expensive costs of transporting the bananas thousands of miles (usually by boat) and needs to make some profit

The ripener needs to cover my costs of storing them and make a profit

The supermarket needs to make a profit on each banana to pay staff and keep the business going

**Task - draw a diagram to show the supply chain of a banana**